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STATEMENT BY

JIM BRADLEY  
MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT

REGARDING

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES'  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR PRIMARY ACCESS ROADS

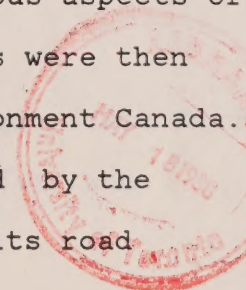
MAY 17, 1988  
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I am announcing today that I have accepted the Ministry of Natural Resources' Environmental Assessment for Primary Access Roads in the Latchford Crown Forest Management Unit -- better known as the Red Squirrel Road Extension.

The roadway in question runs for 48 kilometres south of the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Park. The right-of-way for part of the roadway was cleared of all trees in 1984.

The Ministry of Natural Resources studied various aspects of the road's impact for 22 months. These studies were then reviewed by 14 Provincial Ministries and Environment Canada. Concerns raised in these reviews were addressed by the Ministry of Natural Resources, which adjusted its road proposal accordingly.





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I have decided not to hold a hearing into this matter. A hearing might well have taken more than a year, and delayed construction until the summer of 1990. This would have caused undue delay in obtaining access to timber stands, jeopardizing the economic viability of the local forest industry and threatening job lay-offs.

The Ministry of the Environment is placing 29 conditions on the logging road.

These include conditions on road-building techniques to limit impacts on waterways and to protect fish habitats.

A Temagami Advisory Council, with public membership, shall be established to monitor road design, and to recommend these limits to minimize impacts on the natural environment and on wilderness visitors enjoying the area's recreational attractions.

In the context of the announcements my colleague Vince Kerrio is making today, I believe this results in a fair and balanced policy serving the needs of Temagami.

